

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

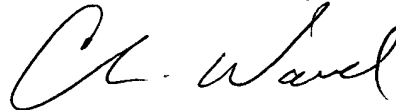
Claims 1-3, 10, 15, and 23 are active in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the Applicants amend Claim 1, and cancel Claims 9, 11, and 12.

In view of the foregoing amendments, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application should be considered in clear condition for formal allowance.

Therefore, a quick and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Four Times Amended) A method for marking materials using a marking material and a material to be marked consisting of a light transparent body or a laser transmittive body, comprising:

a first process of placing a surface of said material to be marked and a surface of said marking material together with a desired gap therebetween, vaporizing said marking material by irradiating through said material to be marked with a first laser beam while scanning with the first laser beam, and depositing a deposit vaporized from said marking material onto a predetermined portion of said material to be marked; and

a second process of [at least one of] removing [or denaturalizing] a part of said deposit deposited onto the surface of said material to be marked by irradiating the part of the deposit with a second laser beam while scanning with the second laser beam;

wherein patterns of characters, diagrams or symbols are formed on said material to be marked; and

wherein said desired gap is between $2\mu\text{m}$ and $200\mu\text{m}$.

9. (Cancel)

11. (Cancel)

12. (Cancel)